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liquor be admitted for transit, is the declaration, some may stay for consumption. The apprehension is serious,—not of itself, but because of its implication. It presents the United States in an invidious light. Is it possible that its sovereignty, and what it can command, cannot protect a train of cars in transit from the Canadian border to the Mexican border, or the removal of liquors from one ship to another, from the stealthy invasions of inordinate appetites or the daring cupidity of bootleggers? But, granting that the care of the government may relax, or its watchfulness may be evaded, is it possible that such occasional occurrences, such petty pilferings, can so determine the policy of the country as to justify the repeal of an act of Congress, and violation or abrogation of its treaty obligation by implication?

I put my dissent upon the inherent improbability of such intention; not because it takes a facility from intoxicating liquor, but because of its evil and invidious precedent; and this at a time when the nations of the earth are assembling in leagues and conferences to assure one another that diplomacy is not deceit, and that there is a security in the declaration of treaties, not only against material aggression, but against infidelity to engagements when interest tempts or some purpose antagonizes. Indeed, I may say there is a growing aspiration that the time will come when nations will not do as they please and bid their wills avouch it.

It seems to us that this dissenting opinion is very cogent and hard to answer from any possible standpoint. But, as we have often said, no one need be surprised at any law or decision when prohibition is under consideration. That Mr. Justice McKenna's dissent is a strong and able presentation of what ought to be the law seems to us, the fact.

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#### ERRATA.

In giving the dates of the birth and death of Col. Prentis in our July number we made a mistake. Col. Prentis was born April 11th, 1819, and died November 23rd, 1871.